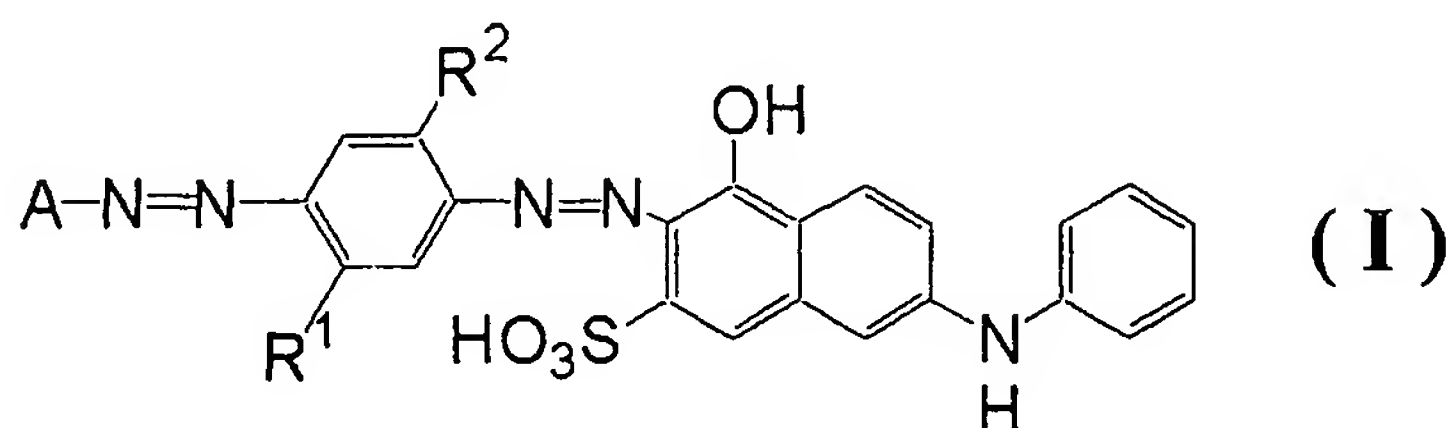


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A disazo compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof.



wherein A represents 4-sulfophenyl or ~~6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl~~ 6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl, one of R¹ and R² represents hydrogen and the other represents methyl

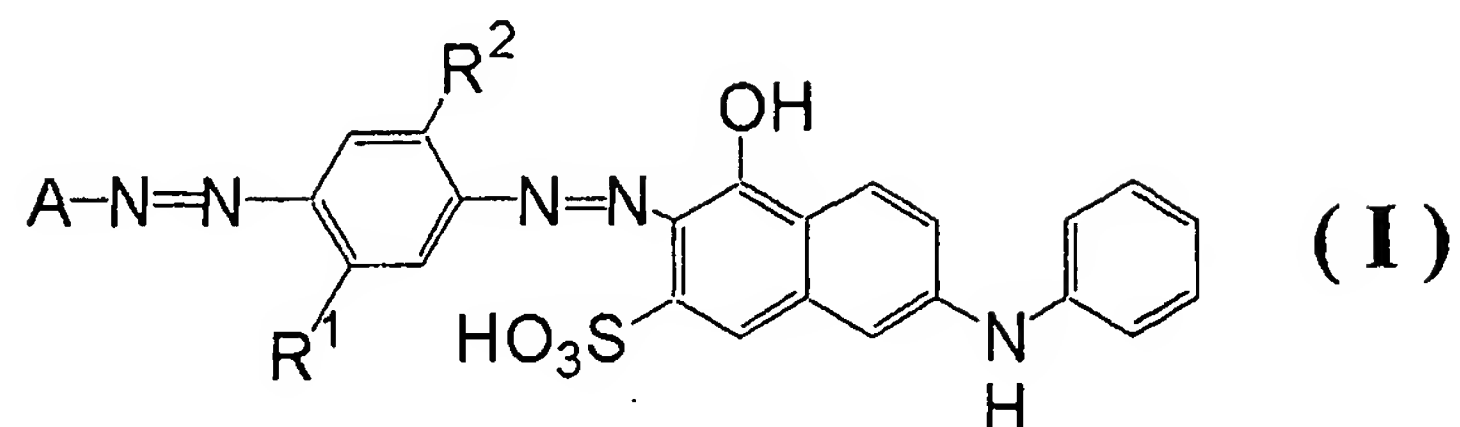
2. (original): The disazo compound or the salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein A represents 4-sulfophenyl, R¹ represents methyl and R² represents hydrogen.

3. (original): The disazo compound or the salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein A represents 4-sulfophenyl, R¹ represents hydrogen and R² represents methyl.

4. (currently amended): The disazo compound or the salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein A represents ~~6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl~~ 6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl, R¹ represents methyl and R² represents hydrogen.

5. (currently amended): A dye-based polarizing film comprising a base material and a disazo compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof contained in the base material.

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wherein A represents 4-sulfophenyl or ~~6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl~~ 6,8-disulfo-2-naphthyl, one of R¹ and R² represents hydrogen and the other represents methyl.

6. (original): The dye-based polarizing film according to Claim 5 wherein the base material is a film comprising polyvinyl alcohol-based resin.